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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1915.

Our Priceless Relics

If the Legislature at its coming session takes definite action as to a new State building for the stray departments now scattered around Richmond, it would do well to pay attention to the building plan suggested in the Educational Conference. A fireproof State Library is really needed, and the erection of such a building would permit the use of the present Library and Supreme Court quarters for office purposes. At present the archives of the State, the most valuable manuscript collection in the country, except that owned by the United States government, are in no little danger. The New York archives were partly destroyed a few years ago; it would be just as easy for a fire to wipe out our own papers—relics of the Colonial and Revolutionary past—and all the wealth of Cathay could not replace the loss.

A peek through the keyhole at Athens warrants the surmise that the Grecian bend has been slightly straightened.

Rome Was Not Built in a Day

EDUCATORS are not immune from the human weakness of inconsistency. They tell us in one breath of the great progress of education in Virginia, and in the next bewail the fact that we are hopelessly behind the times. It is difficult to reconcile both of these statements, and the evidence of our senses leads us to believe the former: all through Virginia splendid schoolhouses are being built.

Nevertheless, we cannot wonder that the educators demand greatly increased appropriations. Being idealists, they desire an ideal educational system. But in this time of adjustment to the new tax system, the Legislature may not be able to give them all they want. Comparisons between educational appropriations in Wisconsin and Virginia are not very apposite. Virginia has had a great burden of debt to bear, with rather slender resources, and the wonder is that she has done as much as she has in the cause of education.

Eventually, our school system will be as good as any in the country, but we cannot expect everything to come at once.

The steel mills of the country are already booking orders for the third quarter of 1916. The midsummer leanman is a pauper compared with a steel magnate.

McLure's Tax Plans

MORE money is demanded by the Federal government, and the question is how shall it be raised. The books balance pretty well just now, thanks to the special war taxes, but no great increase is to be expected in the near future from any of our sources of income.

The Secretary of the Treasury opposes the selling of bonds, even to pay for current expenditures on the Panama Canal. He advises lowering the income tax exemption from \$3,000 to \$2,000 for unmarried men and from \$4,000 to \$3,000 for married men; increases in the income tax rate above a certain figure, and new taxes on gasoline, oils, automobiles, engines and other things.

His recommendations are sound in the main. This is a time when neutral nations, as well as those at war, must face the necessity of increasing military preparations; taxes for this purpose have greatly increased in Holland. There seems no good reason, however, why bonds should not be issued for Panama Canal expenses and for permanent fortifications. Future generations should not object to aid in paying for what will so greatly advance them. Bond issues for such a purpose would reduce the amount needed to be raised by taxation to a sum easily met.

A Wireless Message

CELESTINE GLENN, a spiritualistic medium, is reported to have received a message from Professor Edwin William Friend, who lost his life in the Lusitania disaster. The communication was sufficiently remarkable, to say the least. Mrs. Glenn was giving a mediumistic demonstration in the presence of Professor Hyslop's secretary, when it became known that a new "control" was attempting to speak through the medium. The name of Friend was first spelled out, and then came a description by Mrs. Glenn that would fit the Lusitania.

I see a light in mourning across the water. I seem to go where there are a lot of people lying down with sheets over them like they are ill or sick. They're been hurt, maybe. I keep hearing, "You will recall me!"

An unimportant message from Professor Friend concludes the matter. What there is in it, who shall say? Belief in the power of spirits to communicate with the living has grown greatly in recent years, and spiritualism has become respectable since Profes-

sors James and Hyslop and Sir Oliver Lodge entered the field. The world awaits the examination of spiritualism by scientists with great interest. In spite of the materialistic tendencies of our age, mankind holds passionately to the hope of survival after death. What those who have lost faith in dogmatic religion desire is scientific confirmation of the immortality of the soul.

We shall know better what the conference between King Constantine and Lord Kitchener amounted to when we learn whether in leaving he took his hat off the hall tree of his own accord, or whether Queen Sophia sent her lackey in with it.

No Peace Junket for Stuart

GOVERNOR STUART shows his acumen and sound sense in declining the invitation of Henry Ford to become a member of the peace junket, that is, to steam to Europe on a vessel chartered by the automobile manufacturer, "to get those boys out of the trenches by Christmas Day and have them back in their homes." The Governor of Virginia will not become a party to any such naive absurdity—and, of course, he is right.

For Mr. Ford to think of peace, to consider peace terms and to endeavor by all well-considered means to turn the thought of the nations away from war is salutary and appropriate, although even this has not seemed to us particularly promising of beneficent result. To gather amiable ladies and gentlemen from the four quarters of America and send them to brandish palm leaves in the face of warring Europe is well-intended, of course, but it is none the less ridiculous.

Governor Stuart has no difficulty in understanding that he can have no place in this mad enterprise. If it should ever become appropriate for the United States to intervene with peace suggestions, the duty and responsibility will rest with the national administration at Washington. The Governor of a State could have no official connection with the tender of good offices, but the current European misunderstanding of the American system of government might well lead to further and highly embarrassing misconceptions, should a group of Governors actually undertake to carry out Mr. Ford's project.

The Ford mission must be unofficial. It is conceivable, if Mr. Ford should induce a sufficient number of well-known Americans to join him, that the Foreign Offices of London, Paris and Berlin might be induced to give audiences to the delegation, but the diplomats who did the listening would be moved either to anger or to mirth. If they managed to suppress their resentment and so confine their attention to the merely humorous aspects of private meddling with their business, they would hear with tongue in cheek the call to lay down their arms.

It is gratifying that Governors of other Southern States have seen this matter in the same light as the Governor of Virginia. Craig, of North Carolina, and Brewer, of Mississippi, declined the invitation as soon as it was received. Their example will be followed generally.

Mr. Ford is a great manufacturer of automobiles, but his success in that field seems to have blinded him to those human limitations from which he is not exempt. No man can stop the greatest war the world has ever known by sending visionary agitators to Europe. Peace will come when one party to the conflict offers terms the other can accept. If no such offer is made, the war must go on until it results in the exhaustion of one or both of the alliances. No amount of individual expostulation, however benevolently inspired, can alter that situation.

Students of Purdue University are prohibited from having night-shirt parades. What sort of system of education is that which prescribes what a student shall wear when he goes out to "whoop up the town?"

Lights on All Vehicles at Night

AUTOMOBILISTS have been so lectured and legislated against that the public has almost reached the point of thinking there can be no right on their side. As a matter of fact, some of the present laws and ordinances are unduly severe on motorists. This is notably true of the provisions concerning the carrying of lights at night.

Every automobile is required to display at least one headlight and a tail light. Recent legislation forbids, and wisely, the use of searchlights within the city limits. Yet no horse-drawn vehicle is required to show a light either in front or in the rear. Horse-drawn vehicles are supposed to make enough noise in passing over the streets to give pedestrians sufficient warning, but that noise is rarely loud enough to put the operator of an automobile on notice. And if the horse-drawn vehicle happens to be standing still in one of the badly lighted streets, an automobilist stands a very good chance of smashing it and his own car, through no fault of his own.

There would seem to be no valid reason why Council, which is attacking the question of traffic regulation with considerable zeal, should not adopt an ordinance requiring all vehicles using the streets at night to be lighted adequately.

No successor to Dr. Dumba has yet been named. Vienna may send us another ambassador, but as Dr. Dumba did not succeed, he can have no successor.

Foolish Suppression of the News

ANOTHER proof of the lack of wisdom displayed by the British government in its strict censorship of news may be found in the speech of the Earl of Derby to American correspondents in London on Monday. Lord Derby, who has charge of recruiting operations, attributed the failure of many to volunteer for service to the fact that the necessity had not been realized.

Had not been realized in Great Britain, he meant, of course. All the rest of the world has known for a long time that the necessity has been immediate and urgent. But the British, who are most vitally pressed by that necessity, have been kept in ignorance of the true state of affairs by an arbitrary and foolish suppression of the news.

Richard Bartholdt suggests a peace commission composed of Colonel T. R. William J. Bryan, David Starr Jordan and Eltha Root. While he is at it, Mr. Bartholdt should suggest the making of matches in a powder factory.

Among the natives of Australia and Africa a married man and his wife's mother never talk with each other. And yet there are people who think we ought to send missionaries to those countries.

Will the coming congressional issue be preparedness or pork, or both?

SEEN ON THE SIDE

Calling it off.
In Germany, where war prevails,
Polks and they have to trim their sails
To war-time's changed conditions;
When scarcity takes a bogus smoke,
They always find a substitute—
They're good at transpositions.

Instead of flour made of wheat,
Potato flour now they eat,
And some declare they like it;
Real butter, high and hard to trace,
They seek with ardor to replace,
And some wise man will strike it.

Newspapers, when their news is dead,
Are cut in strips and used instead
Of cotton to make lining;
They're fine for quilted coverlet;
Stuffed in a pillow, you can bet,
They rest the brave, reclining.

Roast acorns oftentimes masquerade
As coffee in the cafes made;
And loyal Germans drink it;
But, urged to take a bogus smoke,
They'll not appreciate the joke—
Let no official think it!

Tobacco made of cabbage leaves
No honest smoker ever deceives—
He scorns the base pollution;
Rich fragrance from Virginia's soil
That men need to sweeten toils
There can't be substitution.

Why the Horn Went Too

Of course, the names are fictitious, but the story is true. Out on one of the highways leading into Richmond is a sign which, as originally painted, read as follows:

SPEED LIMIT SIX MILES
AN HOUR.
BLOW YOUR HORN.

The smart boy of a neighbor took a brush and paint, and, after working on the sign for some time, it read:

SPEED LIMIT SIX MILES.
BLOW YOUR HORN
AN HOUR.

That is why Jinks stopped and tooted until neighbor Binks had him arrested, and Jinks was fined \$5 for making a nuisance of his blower.

The Peasimist Says:

When women get in there will be styles in ballots and election booths, just as there are now in gowns and hats.

Blind Justice.

Grubbs—Do you think every man gets what he deserves in this world?
Stubbs—Certainly not. Why, there are lots of penitentiaries that are not more than half-full, and just think of the disagreeable men of your acquaintance who are still bachelors.

Newcomer Reports to the Guide.

Newcomer had become interested in the domestic affairs of the guide of Capitol Square. He had suggested that he see the guide's wife with a view of bringing about peace. Guide was waiting in a hiding place when Newcomer appeared.

"I saw your wife, as I promised," said Newcomer. "She said if you could only follow the example of some good husbands she knew there would be no occasion for any further trouble. Then she spoke of a Mr. S."

"That fellow? Why, he is a dead one."
"Yes, so your wife stated. She said he was such a thoughtful man; that he had his life insured and then loafed along the railroad until he was hit by an engine and was killed, and that Mrs. S. got the life insurance and the damages from the railroad company, besides."

"Huh! Well, after all the damage she's done me, I don't believe any railroad would pay her anything on that line. I reckon the war will go on."

Carrying It to an Extreme.

"Jinks is a very reasonable sort of man, is he not?"
"I should say he is. Why, I have known Jinks to admit that another make of automobile had points of superiority over the one he drives."

Very Strong, Indeed.

He—Miss Hynotes has a voice of great carrying power.
She—Not a doubt of it. I have seen the time when her voice carried a whole audience out into the street.

Tattlings.

Worry makes more bended shoulders and aching brows than honest labor.
If you know what is just and do not act accordingly, the more of a coward you are.

Work half-done causes more mischief than work not done at all.
Said a noted clergyman: "A man is known by the company he keeps away from."

If a man's heart is not warm, he cannot keep a cool head.
The longer a man is married the less he seems to mind it.

Charity begins at home, but it doesn't lock the door and pull down the blinds.
The honest man who fails is a king compared with the disreputable man who succeeds.

Only for the Kids.

"I do not care for toy and game."
Young Beacon-Streeter said:
"To me it seems a perfect shame
To let them fill one's head.
That they must have some use I know—
At least, I must suspect."

Perhaps their charm is not below
The childish intellect.

Chats With Virginia Editors

"Improved machinery," says the Clifton Forge Review, "enables a man to accomplish almost as many things as a woman can with a hairpin." That is the view of a real judge of such matters.

When you get the bill for Thanksgiving Day be thankful that Christmas is still several months off," remarks the Petersburg Index-Appel. What's the matter now? Better consult your calendar again.

"The Devil," says the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, "may have invented lying, but we are becoming more and more convinced that it has remained for some of our reprehensible acquaintances to perfect the art." None of the perfecters, however, are in the newspaper line.

"Among the new words arising from new conditions in America," says the Roanoke World-News, "is 'jay walker.' A jay walker is an individual who crosses the street in the middle of the block or in the wrong direction at street corners." And Roanoke has its little army of "jay walkers," but will improve a year from now, when prohibition goes into effect.

Here in the way the Lynchburg News celebrated Thanksgiving Day. "Verily all America ought to be thankful. Verily, if ever the American people were provided with incentives and inducements to gratitude, they have them now. A happy land, this in November, 1915, a happy land of happy people; a land of peace, abundance, prosperity; a rightly governed land, holding fast and invincibly to the highest ideals of

human democracy and human progress—a nation blessed of God—so marvelously, generously, richly blessed of God!"

Here is the way it struck the Tidewater Democrat: "Thanksgiving dinners and feasting generally, such as we have in old Essex on that day, are such as to make us wish that every day could be Thanksgiving Day, were it not for the fact that we must reckon with our stomachs and the grocers."

"Now that the Methodist Conference and the Baptist Convention have both pronounced for real prohibition in Virginia," the Newport News Press, "there is nothing for the Legislature to do but to give it, for these two great religious bodies represent a majority of the law-abiding citizens of the Commonwealth." That does make the work of the Legislature lighter, for a fact.

News of Fifty Years Ago

(From Newspaper Files, Nov. 27, 1865.)

Fortress Monroe, now chiefly interesting as being the place of imprisonment of Jefferson Davis, is garrisoned by three companies of the Fifth Regiment of United States regular artillery, although General Nelson P. Miles, of the volunteer army, is still in chief command.

The correspondent of the Baltimore Gazette, writing from Fortress Monroe, says: "Mr. Davis, since his incarceration here, has twice had his hair cut. The first time General Miles took possession of the hair which was cut from the distinguished gentleman's head. On the second occasion Mr. Davis gathered up the shorn locks and carried them to his cell. Soon on an orderly from General Miles came dashing up and demanded the hair, but Mr. Davis had already destroyed it."

The same correspondent also relates the following: "Mr. Davis is allowed to walk on the ramparts, and has been for some time past. Recently some ladies who are friends of General Miles and are visiting his family at quarters, have jeered Mr. Davis while he was on his walks. A few days ago he saw them posting themselves on the rampart at a point where he would necessarily have to pass them. Mr. Davis stopped, lighted a cigar and then turning around, walked back. The ladies must not have liked the fumes of the cigar smoke. At any rate, the next morning General Miles issued an order that Mr. Davis was not to be allowed any more cigars."

Garber & Co. have contracted with all of the railroads entering Richmond for the transportation of passengers and baggage between the depots and hotels. They have purchased busses, carriages and baggage wagons for the purpose.

The Tennessee Senate has passed, by a small vote, the hoodlums' resolution demanding the blood of Mr. Davis and other prominent Confederate officials and generals.

Twenty-five thousand tons of anthracite coal offered at auction in New York yesterday caused the price to fall \$2 per ton, the selling price being now \$12 per ton.

A heavy snow fell in Philadelphia and New York yesterday. None fell in Washington, and Richmond was blessed with a beautiful Indian summer day.

George W. Swenson, a wealthy North Carolina planter, has obtained a charter for a national bank to be established at Salisbury, N. C.

Some of the many burglars, who have been operating on such a large scale in Richmond recently, must have moved to Fredericksburg. Three stores were robbed there night before last.

London papers are harshly criticizing President Davis for pardoning John Mitchell. They seem to see in it a spirit of antagonism to Great Britain.

Major-General Frank Gardner, late of the Confederate army and well remembered in Richmond, is now the local editor of the New Orleans Crescent.

The Voice of the People

Disappearing Sundial.

To the Editor of the Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Speaking of sundials calls to memory an old instrument of this kind that used to be in possession of my family. It was imported from Scotland certainly as early as 1760 by my great-grandfather, who was a Scotchman, and "Jerdone Castle," in Louisiana County, Va. church, it pointed out the time of day to the inhabitants of this state for many years, many years but suddenly disappeared and for a long period of time its whereabouts was unknown.

Many years after its mysterious disappearance, a church in Fredericksburg was repaired, or taken down, and under this building was found the missing sundial. As it had the name of the original owner, Francis Jerdone, and also the name of its home county, Louisiana, and engraved deeply across its face, it was easily identified and promptly returned, and once more it pointed out the time of day to the inhabitants of the family, when it fell heir to one of the daughters and was removed to her home in Orange County.

Here was where I first saw it, and it was then looked on as a great curiosity, as sun dials had passed out of style. But fate had decreed that it should be a great curiosity should make another change and so once more it journeyed back to Louisiana County, but to a new home, near the courthouse here. It renewed my acquaintance with it, but since then it has disappeared again, and whether it adorns a collection of relics in some foreign land or has come into seclusion again it is impossible to say.

But wherever it is, unless it has been greatly defaced, it could be easily identified by the name it bears.

Providence Forge, Va., November 25, 1915.

Current Editorial Comment

Southern Men Drafted by North.
It is probable that an investigation would show Dixie men at the top of a great many administrations and businesses of the North, which would not be surprising, seeing that whenever we have a man who shows special talent he is immediately drafted North, attracted by the higher rewards than he can expect to obtain here at home. The North takes our teachers, preachers, engineers, lawyers and business men in great numbers, and to the North's great gain, as evidenced by the appreciation the North shows for them.—Mobile Register.

Letting His New York, Emanuel Reicher, Actor.
See Others will appeal to his players. He glories in them. Monday evenings "off" so that they may go to other theaters. This is a good plan, for actors, as a class, really know very little about the art of playing other than those with whom they have been associated—and why, if they do not think a lot of it. But if the plan should spread and all the managers should pick Monday evenings for the artistic education of their players, the only shows the poor theaters could go to would be the movies and they can get very strong to the anti-German sentiment. The numerous crimes of murder and arson which have been committed by the German in the United States in an effort to discourage the shipping of munitions to the entente allies and their neighbors, and the numerous public and private acts of violence and outrage which have been committed by the German element, but in an effort to discourage the shipping of munitions to the entente allies, and the numerous crimes of murder and arson which have been committed by the German in the United States in an effort to discourage the shipping of munitions to the entente allies, and the numerous public and private acts of violence and outrage which have been committed by the German element, but in an effort to discourage the shipping of munitions to the entente allies, and the numerous crimes of murder and arson which have been committed by the German in the United States in an effort to discourage the shipping of munitions to the entente allies, and the numerous public and private acts of violence 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